

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS23756

This bill appropriates \$13,805,500 to the Office of Species Conservation for fiscal year 2016 and caps the number of authorized full-time equivalent positions at 12. The bill includes funding for the increased costs for health insurance, accounts for a reduction in statewide cost allocation, and includes an ongoing 3% merit-based increase in employee compensation for permanent employees to be distributed at the discretion of agency heads.

There is one line item from the General Fund in the amount of \$500,000 for sage grouse conservation. Conservation projects include \$75,000 for lek monitoring conducted by Idaho Fish and Game, \$120,000 for equipment and training for the Rangeland Fire Protection Associations, \$50,000 for regional efforts to prevent sage grouse listing, \$150,000 as a financial matching component to enhance conservation efforts by private landowners, \$45,000 for projects to reduce fire hazards on private and state endowment lands, \$25,000 to finalize a mitigation strategy for large-scale infrastructure development, \$25,000 for legal defense of the Governor's sage grouse strategy, and \$10,000 for coordination costs of the Office of Species Conservation.

FISCAL NOTE

	FTP	Gen	Ded	Fed	Total
FY 2015 Original Appropriation	12.00	693,800	57,000	12,772,000	13,522,800
Removal of One-Time Expenditures	0.00	(203,700)	(42,000)	(4,600)	(250,300)
FY 2016 Base	12.00	490,100	15,000	12,767,400	13,272,500
Benefit Costs	0.00	3,500	0	4,800	8,300
Statewide Cost Allocation	0.00	(200)	0	0	(200)
Change in Employee Compensation	0.00	11,400	0	13,500	24,900
FY 2016 Program Maintenance	12.00	504,800	15,000	12,785,700	13,305,500
1. Sage Grouse Conservation	0.00	500,000	0	0	500,000
FY 2016 Total	12.00	1,004,800	15,000	12,785,700	13,805,500
Chg from FY 2015 Orig Approp	0.00	311,000	(42,000)	13,700	282,700
% Chg from FY 2015 Orig Approp.	0.0%	44.8%	(73.7%)	0.1%	2.1%

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